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1. The Soviet Ministry of Public Health, headed by Georgii Andreovich Miterov, is divided into a Personnel Office, departments of Medical Therapeutics, Epidemiology, Pharmacology, and a number of subsections, including health resorts and workers' health protection. Comment: Lt. General Efim I. Smirnov was appointed Minister of Health on 26 February 1947, replacing Miterov.)
2. Each republic, krai, and oblast has a similarly-divided public health service under the supervision of a medical officer.
3. Municipal and suburban or area Public Health Offices are set up in the same way except that they have, in addition, a drug supply division, central and regional polyclinics, and specialized hospitals, such as venereal and maternity. The hospital facilities and the number of medical personnel vary with the size and population of the area. If medical treatment requiring hospitalization is not available within a certain area, patients are sent to the nearest city polyclinic or hospital.
4. All plants, factories, educational institutions, and the like within Russia have their own clinics and physicians who administer the everyday medical needs of the population. A person with a temperature of 37.3° C or more is relieved of his duties and given a "napravlenie" by the physician, which he then takes to the appropriate polyclinic. Hospitalization is provided as needed in a specialized institution, although if a patient has a fever but does not require confinement he is given a "byulleten" and must report to the clinic every other day until discharged by the physician. In cases of emergency, physicians may be summoned to the patient's home.
5. Non-workers receive the same medical attention as productive laborers, although they may not attend the clinics during working hours.
6. Depending upon his seniority, a worker, trade union member, or student, while incapacitated through illness or injury, will receive from 25% to 75% of his usual wages.
7. All medical supplies and advice are free of charge. However, if a patient should visit a physician during his office hours, as distinguished from his clinical hours, a fee may be charged. Also, medical supplies may be purchased at government-operated apothecary stores.

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8. Source believes many Soviet physicians are dissatisfied with a medical system which almost automatically assigns younger doctors to unpleasant duties in remote areas of Middle Asia and the Far East. Furthermore, there are numerous cases of graft in medical circles; and it is a matter of common knowledge that patients with political influence receive preferential treatment at clinics and hospitals.

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